

Players of the weekend



Defender: Abdoulaye Faye
Bolton Wanderers, home to Newcastle United



Bolton were overrun by Newcastle in the first half but **Faye** was blameless. The central defender supplied some important tackles and interceptions and was so busy he rarely had time to advance, as his touch graphic shows



Midfielder: Steven Gerrard
Liverpool, away to Aston Villa



Liverpool's all-action hero played in his favoured position of central midfield against Villa and covered the pitch tirelessly. His many effective first-time passes included one in the build-up for the first Liverpool goal



Striker: Dimitar Berbatov
Tottenham Hotspur, away to Sunderland



Tottenham endured misery against Sunderland but **Berbatov** reproduced his fine form of last season, with some classy touches in tight spaces. Tottenham fans will be grateful he has not been lured to a bigger club this summer

Move of the weekend



Steven Gerrard gathers a loose ball for Liverpool but is faced by Ashley Young and Gareth Barry



Gerrard shows ingenuity to burst between the two opponents and sets off towards the Villa goal



The Liverpool player slides a pass between Gary Cahill and Wilfred Bouma to set Dirk Kuyt away on the right (out of picture)



Having advanced into the penalty area, Gerrard meets Kuyt's return pass but his shot is blocked by the diving Craig Gardner

Busiest players

F Lampard (Chelsea)	77
P Scholes (Manchester United)	75
N Vidic (Manchester United)	72
F Fabregas (Arsenal)	69
R Ferdinand (Manchester United)	67
T Ben Haim (Chelsea)	65

Team of the weekend



Sunderland, home to Tottenham Hotspur

A fine performance against Tottenham Hotspur means Sunderland already have a fifth of the points tally they managed in their last top-flight season. These 11 players touched the ball the most, including Liam Miller, the substitute. Ross Wallace and Kieran Richardson combined well on the left, while Paul McShane and Nyrón Nosworthy held firm in central defence.

Long passes

